The Diary and Sundry Observations of Thomas Alva Edison, edited by *Dagobert D. Runes.* This book, simply a compilation of certain of the writings of Edison, gives us a picture of this truly remarkable man not to be obtained otherwise. Naturally he is generally thought of as an inventor; but in addition he was something of a prophet and quite a philosopher. He was first of all a scientist, but his interests and observations encompassed many fields. He hated waste, ignorance, and inertia with a passion, and was particularly fond of emphasizing this fact by frequent use of the word atrophy, it appearing seven times on one page. Edison wrote interestingly on pertinent subjects. How many of us know that in 1922 he had something to say about atomic energy, that he considered the ability to remember the most important of the mental processes, that he slept only four or five hours out of twenty-four, that he was afflicted with deafness, that he considered the phonograph his greatest invention. Mr. Edison gets off on a tangent and goes somewhat overboard, however, when he delves into the matters of life origin, death, the hereafter, spiritualism, spirit communication and related subjects. He is here necessarily merely speculating, but his "little people," "life-units," "swarms" and "electrons," reflect the sweep of his mind and imagination. An interesting and informative book. 247 pages. *Philosophical Library, Inc.* Price, $4.75.

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